



Columbia, June 16th, 1861.

*To the Clergy and Lay Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, South :*

DEAR BRETHREN :

The publication of a paper, reflective of the sentiments and interests of the Lutheran Church, South, is no longer a matter for speculation, but a thing of primary importance. It is unnecessary to state the reasons which have brought us to this conclusion ; they are so apparent, that any attempt at explanation on our part might with great propriety be regarded as a reflection upon your judgment. We all realize that the act of separation between our churches and those of the North, has already been effected, and needs but the formal declaration of our respective Synods, to render it final and complete. Henceforth, in the great work the Master has commissioned us to do (so far as human instrumentalities are concerned,) we must rely upon ourselves. Let us therefore nerve ourselves to the task, and seek to become workmen who need not be ashamed of their labor. Our earliest efforts should in our judgment be directed to the establishment of a paper, which might strictly be regarded as the Organ of the whole Southern Church, to be ultimately under the management and control of a general Synod. But as some months will probably elapse before such a Synod will be formed, the question presents itself, what are we to do in the interval for a medium of communication between our respective charges and the Church general? To meet this want, and provided it meets with the approval of the brethren generally, the Synod of South Carolina will undertake the publication of a paper until a General Synod shall have been organized. The object of this Circular is to apprise you of our intention, and to solicit your co-operation.

*Place of Publication.*—We propose to publish this paper in Charleston, S. C., which city affords facilities not furnished by any of the other places we might select.

*Editors.*—It will be edited by a committee of Clergymen to be appointed by our Synod, and whose services will be gratuitously bestowed.

*Size.*—In size, type, &c., it will correspond as nearly as possible with the Lutheran Observer.

*Name and Terms.*—Its distinctive title will be THE SOUTHERN LUTHERAN, and the price of Subscription will be Two Dollars, in advance.

As to the date of its publication, that of course must depend in a great measure upon your zeal and interest in the work—if a sufficient number of subscribers are obtained, we will issue the paper some time in July. The amount of subscription to be paid upon the receipt of the first number of the paper.

It remains for us now but to entreat you brethren to sustain us in this undertaking ; let it be the determination of all of us, to carry it forward with becoming energy and spirit, and we will soon have a paper worthy of our Southern Church.

The name of Subscribers, with their Post Office address, and all remittances of money, will be forwarded to Mr. Robert G. Chisolm, Charleston, S. C.

All other communications will be sent either to Rev. J. Bachman, D. D., Rev. W. S. Bowman, or Rev. N. Aldrich, Charleston, S. C.

Yours in Gospel bonds,

E. B. HORT, *President,*

J. HAWKINS, *Secretary*

*Of the Synod of South Carolina and Adjacent States.*